



For Release: Friday, July 17, 2015

15-1373-CHI

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

Technical information: (312) 353-1880 BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/midwest

Media contact: (312) 353-1138

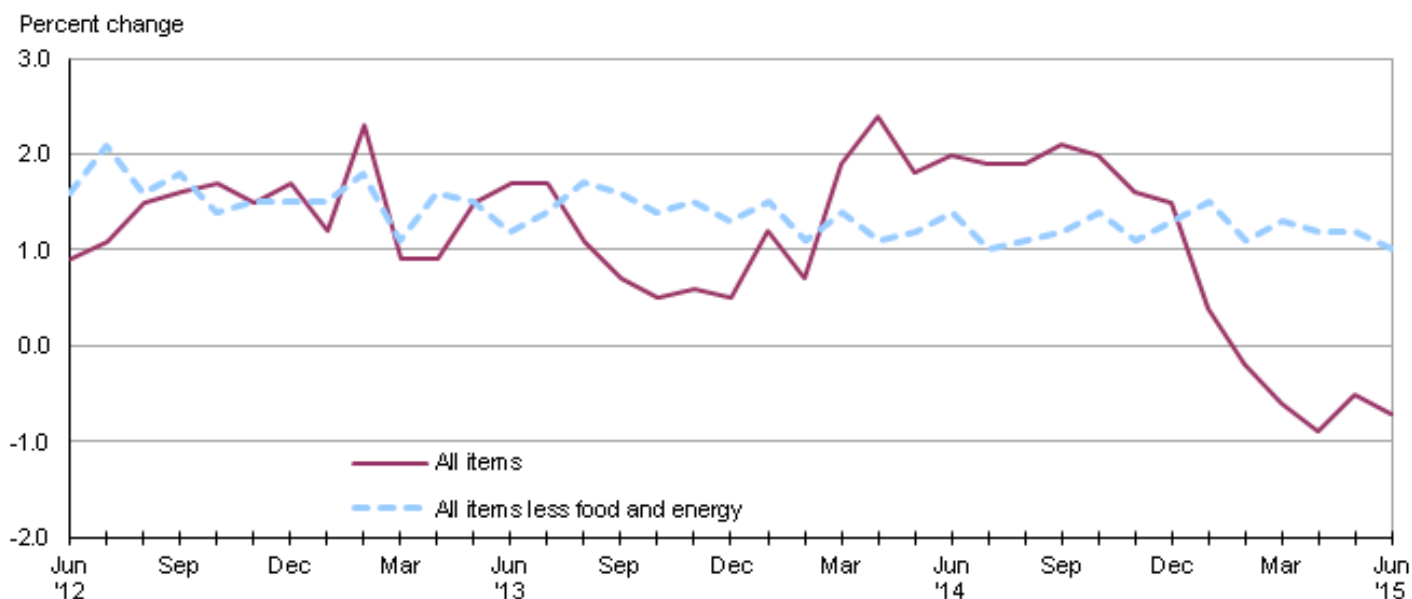
Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Gary-Kenosha — June 2015

Local prices declined 0.7 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Chicago-Gary-Kenosha area rose 0.2 percent in June, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that energy prices increased 1.8 percent and food prices increased 0.2 percent in June. The all items less food and energy index saw no change over the month. Among the indexes within the all items less food and energy category, prices rose for shelter, but were lower for apparel; recreation; and household furnishings and operations in June. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Chicago area all items CPI-U decreased 0.7 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The energy index fell 19.3 percent over the year due to falling gasoline prices, utility (piped) gas service costs, and electricity costs. The all items less food and energy index was 1.0 percent higher over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago, June 2012–June 2015



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.2 percent in June following a 0.3 percent decrease in May. Of the two components within the food index, prices for food at home (groceries) declined 0.4 percent while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) increased 1.1 percent over the month. Within the food at home group, categories experiencing price increases included eggs, snacks, and tomatoes, while prices were lower for bananas and other fresh fruits.

From June 2014 to June 2015, the food index increased 1.9 percent. Grocery food prices rose 0.8 percent over the year, while prices for food eaten away from home increased 3.5 percent from the previous June.

Energy

The energy index was up 1.8 percent in June, due mostly to an 8.2 percent increase in gasoline prices and a 2.3 percent increase in utility (piped) gas service costs. The electricity index declined 8.5 percent from May to June.

On an annual basis, the Chicago area energy index declined 19.3 percent. Over the year, prices for gasoline, utility (piped) gas service, and electricity fell 21.8 percent, 33.2 percent, and 0.2 percent, respectively.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy remained unchanged in June. Among the index's components, prices were higher for shelter (0.5 percent). In contrast, prices were lower for apparel (-2.0 percent), recreation (-0.5 percent), and household furnishings and operations (-0.5 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.0 percent. Annual increases in the indexes for shelter (2.5 percent) and medical care (3.6 percent) were the major contributing factors. In contrast, apparel prices were down 8.6 percent and costs for household furnishings and operations declined 3.2 percent over the year.

Table A. Chicago CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.6	1.4	0.6	2.1	0.2	1.2	0.9	1.2	-0.2	0.4
February.....	0.5	1.8	0.0	1.6	1.1	2.3	0.5	0.7	0.0	-0.2
March.....	0.8	2.3	1.2	2.1	-0.1	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.7	-0.6
April.....	0.4	2.7	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.9	0.5	2.4	0.1	-0.9
May.....	0.6	3.3	-0.1	1.0	0.5	1.5	-0.1	1.8	0.3	-0.5
June.....	0.0	3.8	-0.1	0.9	0.1	1.7	0.4	2.0	0.2	-0.7
July.....	-0.4	3.2	-0.2	1.1	-0.2	1.7	-0.4	1.9		
August.....	0.2	3.2	0.6	1.5	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.9		
September.....	0.2	3.1	0.3	1.6	-0.2	0.7	0.0	2.1		
October.....	-0.2	2.9	-0.2	1.7	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	2.0		
November.....	-0.2	2.9	-0.4	1.5	-0.3	0.6	-0.8	1.6		
December.....	-0.5	2.1	-0.3	1.7	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	1.5		

The July 2015 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, August 19, 2015.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **Note: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The **Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.** consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties in Illinois; Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana; and Kenosha County in Wisconsin.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Apr. 2015	May 2015	Jun. 2015	Jun. 2014	Apr. 2015	May 2015
Expenditure category						
All items	227.704	228.494	228.837	-0.7	0.5	0.2
All items (1967=100)	680.286	682.645	683.671	-	-	-
Food and beverages	241.043	240.318	240.623	1.7	-0.2	0.1
Food	240.620	239.823	240.348	1.9	-0.1	0.2
Food at home	238.796	237.947	237.049	0.8	-0.7	-0.4
Food away from home	237.745	237.040	239.574	3.5	0.8	1.1
Alcoholic beverages	245.591	245.943	242.970	-1.1	-1.1	-1.2
Housing	232.153	231.959	231.882	0.5	-0.1	0.0
Shelter	286.671	286.568	288.019	2.5	0.5	0.5
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	303.791	303.922	305.505	3.9	0.6	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	291.986	291.884	292.567	2.4	0.2	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	291.986	291.884	292.567	2.4	0.2	0.2
Fuels and utilities	202.433	203.060	196.390	-10.7	-3.0	-3.3
Household energy	167.189	166.847	159.390	-16.3	-4.7	-4.5
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	170.426	170.112	162.367	-16.4	-4.7	-4.6
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	177.353	178.185	162.951	-0.2	-8.1	-8.5
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	144.816	142.946	146.285	-33.2	1.0	2.3
Household furnishings and operations	97.179	96.145	95.712	-3.2	-1.5	-0.5
Apparel	89.776	88.657	86.902	-8.6	-3.2	-2.0
Transportation	185.375	190.443	193.672	-7.4	4.5	1.7
Private transportation	181.510	185.909	190.499	-7.5	5.0	2.5
Motor fuel	239.373	256.541	277.470	-21.8	15.9	8.2
Gasoline (all types)	236.865	253.927	274.695	-21.8	16.0	8.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	230.614	247.665	267.733	-22.5	16.1	8.1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	254.831	271.120	294.639	-19.9	15.6	8.7
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	241.629	257.019	278.413	-17.9	15.2	8.3
Medical care	462.420	463.528	463.984	3.6	0.3	0.1
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	108.482	110.275	109.725	0.0	1.1	-0.5
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	141.864	141.260	141.275	-0.2	-0.4	0.0
Other goods and services	379.669	383.096	383.121	-0.2	0.9	0.0
Commodity and service group						
All items	227.704	228.494	228.837	-0.7	0.5	0.2
Commodities	168.328	169.011	170.113	-3.7	1.1	0.7
Commodities less food & beverages	131.186	132.461	133.875	-7.6	2.0	1.1
Nondurables less food & beverages	171.338	174.280	177.605	-10.5	3.7	1.9
Durables	92.697	92.396	92.004	-1.7	-0.7	-0.4
Services	283.951	284.842	284.470	1.1	0.2	-0.1
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	217.653	218.430	218.769	-1.1	0.5	0.2
All items less shelter	207.942	209.051	209.005	-2.2	0.5	0.0
Commodities less food	135.383	136.644	137.950	-7.3	1.9	1.0
Nondurables	206.952	208.177	210.099	-4.2	1.5	0.9
Nondurables less food	176.362	179.182	182.187	-9.9	3.3	1.7
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	295.894	297.833	295.496	-0.5	-0.1	-0.8
Services less medical care services	270.354	271.259	270.843	0.8	0.2	-0.2
Energy	194.911	201.380	204.979	-19.3	5.2	1.8
All items less energy	232.627	232.881	232.916	1.2	0.1	0.0

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Apr. 2015	May 2015	Jun. 2015	Jun. 2014	Apr. 2015	May 2015
All items less food and energy	231.998	232.447	232.392	1.0	0.2	0.0

Footnotes

(1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(2) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(4) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(5) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.